## United Way for Southeastern Michigan 2017 MEAP Grant

**Grant Award:** \$2,000,000

Service Area: UWSEM service area: Wayne, Oakland, and Macomb Counties

**Anticipated Reach:** 2,422 Households

United Way for Southeastern Michigan is enrolling households into the Low-Income Self-Sufficiency Plan in partnership with DTE with the goal of assisting low-income families to become energy self-sufficient in Macomb, Oakland, and Wayne Counties. United Way for Southeastern Michigan will also have a focus on developing innovative approaches to self-sufficiency and data evaluation, allowing for greater impact amongst families. UWSEM will also be implementing additional innovative methods for increasing & measuring participant self-sufficiency.

## **Program Details**

- UWSEM screens applicants for eligibility and enrolls participants into the LSP program
- UWSEM provides self-sufficiency services through our standard level of care to 1,922 households enrolled in the program
- Affordable fixed monthly payments based on income and energy usage
- Arrears frozen at the time of enrollment and reduced quarterly with successful payment compliance.
- Grant funds pay the difference between the actual bill and customer payment each month, as well as quarterly arrears forgiveness payments.
- Participants required to remain within specific usage guidelines: Energy usage (electric and gas) over the last 12 months must be comparable with average annual usage for participants.
- UWSEM makes referrals to partner agencies, weatherization services, and provides education program guidelines and ways to reduce energy consumption
- UWSEM has a team of care coordinators that assess for participant needs and connect our participants to appropriate support services
- UWSEM develops new pilot focused on peer-to-peer support (LSP Connect) to test scalability of self-sufficiency services through a new service delivery method; 500 participants will receive LSP Connect services
- Additional information & details can be found and liveunitedsem.org/lsp

## **Locations/Hours/Contact Information**

United Way for Southeastern Michigan is located at 660 Woodward Avenue Suite 300, Detroit, MI 48226. Our LSP advocates can be reached at 844-598-7967 Monday-Friday 9am-5pm. All inquiries about LSP can be sent to <a href="mailto:lsp@liveunitedsem.org">lsp@liveunitedsem.org</a>.

For additional information, please visit liveunitedsem.org/lsp.



